

## CENSORSHIP BILL CENTER OF STORM

Opposition Grows Both in Senate and House.

DELAYED ACTION IS DENIED

Publishers All Over Country Are Aroused and Make Protest.

Spirited debate on the espionage bill, with its censorship section, was resumed in the House today, while Congressman Graham of Pennsylvania, a minority member of the Judiciary Committee, awaited an opportunity to offer a motion to strike the censorship clause from the measure. The principal fight will come on the Graham motion.

The House today refused to set aside the espionage bill to take up the Alexander bill authorizing the Government to seize and use enemy ships in American harbors. Chairman Webb, of the Judiciary Committee, declined to finish consideration of the espionage bill, and Mr. Mann, the minority leader, objected to the ship bill's consideration before the espionage bill is out of the way. He suggested that the shipping bill could be taken up late today or tomorrow.

Accordingly the House proceeded with debate on the espionage bill pending the arrival of Mr. Viviani and other members of the French commission who were scheduled to appear early in the afternoon.

Fears Evil Would Result.

Congressman Graham, one of the "constitutional lawyers" of the House, served notice that he would seek to strike out the censorship section. He asserted that he had decided that it would be better to have no censorship legislation at all.

"I believe at this time more evil will result from the enactment of section 4 than any possible good that may come from it," he said.

Mr. Graham told the House that it would be impossible to enumerate the things which ought to be censored, nor did he think blanket legislation should be passed authorizing the President to do the thing proposed in the pending bill.

"You cannot authorize the President to determine a crime and also punish a crime," said Montague. "He can do both."

The censorship section continued to be the object of attack today. If the Graham motion to strike it out is carried, the bill will be sent to the Senate. Mr. Webb insisted that it would be impossible to do this, and that discretion must be left to the President.

Says Subordinate Would Act.

Mr. McCormick declared that this meant some subordinate of the President would prepare proclamations.

"It is too much power to put in the hands of any one man, even the President," said Mr. McCormick.

Repeating a paragraph from an editorial in The Washington Times of yesterday Congressman Austin asked (Continued on Tenth Page.)

## PITTSBURGH TRUST CO. NOT THE ONE WRECKED

Pittsburgh Life and Trust Co. Institution in Trouble.

In the headlines of a story from Pittsburgh yesterday The Times stated "Pittsburgh Trust Company Wrecked in Two Days." The institution referred to in the story was the Pittsburgh Life and Trust Company.

In view of the fact that we are informed that there is a firm known specifically as the Pittsburgh Trust Company, which is not affected, The Times is glad to correct any possible misinterpretation of the headlines.

## CLUB FOR THURSTON

Resolution Favoring Retention is Adopted by Women.

A resolution favoring the retention of Ernest L. Thurston as superintendent of public schools in the District, was adopted today at a meeting of the Twentieth Century Club, at All Souls' Church, Northwest.

The resolution was a strong protest against any change in the present management of the public school system, and endorsed the work of Mr. Thurston.

The club adopted resolutions favoring universal military service, and ordered a copy of the resolutions sent to the State at once.

Following the business meeting a short entertainment was given. Those who took part were Mrs. O. F. Cooke, Mrs. George F. Bowman, Mrs. W. G. Swann, Mrs. E. Smith, and Mrs. Ernest P. Bicknell.

The meeting today was the last regular meeting of the fiscal year. Mrs. Edward B. Clark, acting president, presided. Just before the introduction into office of Mrs. Ernest P. Bicknell, newly elected president, the entire club arose to sing "America," and presented Mrs. Clark with a large American flag.

## JAILED IN BATHING SUIT.

ATLANTIC CITY, May 3.—Max Eckert, of New York city, was arrested today for expressions against the Government.

Eckert started a small riot in a swimming pool by his discussion. Four policemen yanked him from the tank in his bathing suit, and hustled him to jail. He was held without bail for examination.

## Want Drastic Shipping Law

Administration Officials Feel That Only By Such Can General Disaster Be Averted.

Drastic legislation giving the Government supreme authority in dealing with the shipping problem of the country is expected to be introduced in Congress this week.

Coming on the heels of the plain spoken warnings of disaster that have been sounded in the past forty-eight hours

regarding the submarine situation, the legislation officials hope, will be acted on promptly by Congress.

It is a proposition laid down by Administration officials and by members of the British and French war commissions, that unless extraordinary measures are adopted by this country to increase by tremendous additions the world's supply of ships, disaster is not only certain as regards Great Britain and France, but likewise regarding the United States.

The statements that have been made on the responsible quarters have not failed to electrify Washington to a realization of the extreme gravity of the situation. The lack of reserves that has characterized the warnings of Secretary of State Lansing, Secretary of the Interior Lane, Lord Eustace Percy of the British commission, and others, has completely surprised the capital.

The money was loaned from the proceeds of security certificates of indebtedness floated by the Government a few days ago.

The ceremonies attendant upon the transaction were as simple, direct, and businesslike as those that marked the turning over to Great Britain of \$200,000,000 last week.

Signed in Office.

A Treasury warrant for the sum, the second largest ever drawn, was signed by Secretary McAdoo and Controller of the Treasury Warlick in the Secretary's office in the presence of the Italian ambassador, the counselor of the Italian embassy, George L. Bokser, assistant to the Secretary, Governor Harding, of the reserve board, and Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Crosby. Motion pictures of the transfer of the war loan, the signatures by the Secretary, the Controller and the ambassador were taken. The films used are to be specially mounted and preserved.

The money is to be deposited in this country, and used for the purchase of coal, wheat and other needed supplies.

GERMANY REWARDS SOCIALISTS' LEADER

Philip Scheidemann Named President of Reichstag Committee.

AMSTERDAM, May 3.—The German government has taken the revolutionary and unprecedented step of appointing a Socialist as president of the Reichstag committee of the Reichstag today. Philip Scheidemann, whose recent efforts were backed by government aid to achieve a separate peace between Russia and Germany through conference of Socialists, was the Liberal selected for this important post.

Observers of German affairs here regarded it as particularly significant that a Socialist, and Scheidemann of all the Socialists, would be named as chairman of a committee which will very soon have to deal with extension of franchise reforms promised by the Kaiser and by the imperial chancellors, von Bethmann-Hollweg.

Scheidemann has led the group of regular Socialists in Germany. His way over all Socialists, however, has recently been questioned by formation of an anti-government Socialist branch in the Reichstag under leadership of Haase and Ledebour. This new offshoot of the general Socialist party objected to Scheidemann and his assistants pledging to great a measure of support to the government, and demanded nothing less than sweeping reforms including full franchise rights.

Scheidemann has been variously reported as in Scandinavia and Holland attempting to confer with other Socialists recently on his plan for concerted Socialist pressure on Russia for a separate peace. Scheidemann is reported to have complete sympathy and backing of the German government in his scheme. Although the German Socialist peace move has apparently come to a standstill, it is possible Scheidemann's appointment to a committee president may be in the nature of a reward for his services.

U-BOAT PERIL GROWS, SAYS HOOVER, FOOD MAN

Submarine Destruction Increases Steadily, Says Belgians' Helper.

NEW YORK, May 3.—"Submarine destruction has been steadily increasing for six weeks. The situation is one of extreme gravity—make sure of that."

With this warning Herbert C. Hoover, who may become America's food dictator, arrived today from England. He left immediately for Washington.

Declaring that there is no industrial district of Belgium had been "multiplied by three" on account of submarine operations during March and April, Hoover said the U-boats were the one big menace which must be eliminated in order to win the war.

Europe Needs Wheat.

"The European food situation, as well as the general war situation there, requires every possible effort we can make," he said. "What Europe needs most is wheat and it must have wheat, but it must also have pork and produce."

"As for Belgium, the relief system is struggling to its feet after having been practically knocked out by the submarines. Five of our ships have been torpedoed since March 1."

"We landed only 50,000 tons of food in Belgium during March and April. Deaths greatly increased. Babies were cared for first. They did not die."

"It was the adults, the old people, the mothers, who suffered."

"The relief commission has only thirty vessels. It should have seventy to feed Belgium alone."

## THREE U. S. VESSELS SUNK; CREWS SAVED

Oil Tanker Sun Is Reported Torpedoed.

SCHOONER MARGARET BURNED

Willard Abrahams Sent to Bottom by U-Boat Off Irish Coast.

The torpedoing of the American sailing vessel Willard Abrahams, off the Irish coast, and rescue of her crew of six were reported officially to the State Department today.

(The latest American shipping list registers no vessel by this name. This makes it probable that the torpedoed ship is one of many that have been renamed since the beginning of the war.)

The American consul at Liverpool named the following members of the crew: Willard Abrahams, the torpedoed vessel, was lost or missing.

Lieut. C. C. Thomas, A. Donald, R. J. Fisher, C. F. Lickan, and F. H. Loe (died April 21).

The crew of the gun crew were John Nichols, T. Wilson, F. Lasher, J. E. Williams, J. Williams, G. W. Parker, O. H. Lucke, and L. R. Mueshorn.

Survivors of the unwarmed attack upon the vacuum were in boats twenty-nine hours, and suffered from wet and cold.

Destruction of the American schooner Margaret on April 27, was announced by the State Department today. The vessel was set on fire by a submarine.

The statement does not define the nationality of the submarine, nor is the place of the destruction given. No reference is made to loss of life.

PHILADELPHIA, May 3.—The tanker Sun was torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean sea, according to advices received here today, by the Sun Oil Company, from its London agency.

The crew is reported as saved.

The Sun is a 4,326-ton vessel, whose home port is Philadelphia.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR WAR LOAN POURING IN

Hundreds Take Bonds as Soon as They Are Issued.

Subscriptions to the \$200,000,000 war bond issue announced by Secretary McAdoo last night are pouring in upon the Treasury Department.

Offers to take the bonds are coming from banks, department stores, business houses, and individuals throughout the country. Hundreds of them came by telegraph as soon as the issue was announced.

The first mail this morning brought many others.

Millions of dollars have already been subscribed to the loan, and applications are coming in so fast that Treasury officials have been unable to check the total.

Many of these subscribers are in blank form carrying only a "Y." They will be left to the Treasury Department to fill in such details as the fixing of denominations were worked out.

The issue is to bear interest at the rate of 3½ per cent per annum. Secretary McAdoo is confident that the issue will be over-subscribed, and those who do not receive an allotment will be put on a preferred list for the second issue.

If the second bond issue is floated at a higher rate of interest than the first one, it will be provided that the first issue can be converted to the higher interest rate.

It is estimated that the \$200,000,000 issue will cover all the needs of the Government during the first few months of the war.

John Poole, president of the Federal Reserve bank, conferred with Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo today on plans for floating the big war bond issue.

Mr. Poole laid before the Secretary a plan for the issue of war bonds for time saving on the bonds.

Mr. Poole's bank was the first in the country to announce a plan whereby its patrons could purchase bonds in small amounts. He has worked this plan out to national proportions. His bank made a heavy subscription to the issue the moment it was announced by the Secretary.

## BRITISH PRESS DRIVE WITH RENEWED VIGOR

laig Reports Heavy Fighting Along Twelve-Mile Front.

LONDON, May 3.—The transport Arcadian was sunk in the Mediterranean April 15, with a loss of 279 lives, according to an admiralty statement today.

LONDON, May 3.—After two days of action the British drive was renewed in a powerful force again today, and in a new direction. Field Marshal Haig reported today.

"There was heavy fighting all along the front, from the Humbering line south of the Senne river to the Achille Vimy road," he said. "We are progressing and have already captured a number of strong hostile positions."

The British commander in chief's report indicates an offensive extending over a front of at least twelve miles.

## JOFFRE AND VIVIANI CHEERED BY HOUSE

French Envoys Given Ovation on Capitol Visit.

PACIFISTS LEAD ACCLAIM

Ex-Premier Speaks, and Marshal Says "Vive l'Amerique."

As the House stood and cheered as only its heated lungs could utter, Marshal Joffre, Vice Premier Viviani, and Vice Admiral Chocheprat, of the French commission, today completed their list of official visits. If the Senate reception to the two French envoys today was a riot, the reception to the two French envoys today was a riot.

Pacifists and other anti-war members led the applause for the commission as the House doorkeeper announced.

"The Honorable French Commission to the United States."

The commissioners arrived at the Capitol at 12:10. House and galleries commenced applauding long before they entered the chamber. When Joffre and Viviani ascended to Speaker Clark's rostrum to be presented, handclapping changed to stamping, deck pounding and cheering.

Viviani bowed in response, while Joffre responded with his now familiar salute. Then, as Joffre sat down, Viviani laid his gloves on the Speaker's desk and launched into a vivacious address.

Clark Presents Joffre.

Two Congressmen in front, who understood what he said, led the rest of the House in applause, except when Viviani mentioned President Wilson, when all applauded vociferously.

Congressman Medill McCormick of Illinois, volunteer interpreter to the press gallery, furnished a mirror for Viviani's vivacious gestures as he waved his arms and dictated a free translation to a stenographer.

As Viviani finished spontaneous cheers were renewed. Joffre arose and saluted.

"I present to you—Mr. Clark began. The greatest cheer that ever has shaken the air waves of the House interrupted Clark for a couple of minutes. Then he finished: "the Marshal of France."

The Speaker—no linguist—carefully refrained from any attempt at pronunciation. He stuck to titles.

Joffre saluted the House and waited for order.

Kisses Miss Hankin's Hand.

"Thank you," he said finally. "Vive America!" Then he sat down.

Speaker Clark escorted Viviani, Joffre, and Chocheprat to the front of the chamber, where they shook hands with more members than have responded to any roll call in months.

Ambassador Jusserand and officers of the French commission were seated in front of the Speaker's desk. The party was escorted to the chamber by Congressman Flood, Virginia; chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee; Linthicum, Maryland; Cooper, Wisconsin; Foster, Pennsylvania; and Goodwin, Arkansas.

Miss Jeannette Rankin, as usual, furnished a light touch to the occasion. (Continued on Fifth Page.)

## SHEPARD JOINS MARINES

Leaves Capitol Press Gallery to "Do Bitt" as Private.

Nelson M. Shepard, of this city, son of Judge Shepard, and a well-known newspaper man, has gone to Philadelphia, where he will enter the Marine corps as a private.

Mr. Shepard is a member of the press gallery, and has for some time represented the Central News in the Senate. He has enlisted to "do his bit" for the period of the war.

## ELKUS CONVALESCENT

Will Be Able to Come Home in Four Weeks.

American Ambassador Elkus, Constantinople, is convalescent from the attack of typhus fever and will be able to leave for home in four weeks, the State Department learned today.

## ASSIGN RETIRED OFFICERS.

Retired army officers are offering themselves and being assigned to active duty. Army orders today reported Brig. Gen. Ernest A. Garlington, retired, assigned for duty in the office of the chief of staff. Lieut. Col. George Metcalf, Derby is assigned to duty at New Orleans.

## GOOD NEWS FOR HOUSEWIVES

The Times will seek to assist its readers by publishing each day a list of food articles which on the day following will be purchasable at lower prices than those which have prevailed. This list represents consultation by Times representatives with the proprietors of more than 100 stores, some one of which is near you. Tomorrow's (Friday's) cut price foods include:

Texas onions New potatoes  
Red beets Asparagus  
Peas Cucumbers

Strawberries continue scarce, due to rain and cold. Several cars are due late today or tomorrow, besides regular express receipts.

Most green vegetables are plentiful except spinach and kale.

## INSANITY VAWTER DEFENSE MAY BE SENT TO ASYLUM AT ONCE AS CRIMINAL LUNATIC

TRIAL'S ABRUPT END NOW SEEMS LIKELY

Counsel for Both Sides Confer After Climaxes.

DEFENDANT'S WIFE UNHEARD

About to Call Mrs. Vawter When Court Calls Recess in Case.

By ROBERT B. BERNHARDT, CHRISTIANBURG, Va., May 3.—Confronted by the crushing blow of Vawter's letter offering his wife for sale in exchange for payment of a whiskey bill, the defense suddenly changed all its plans today in the trial of Charles E. Vawter, Virginia Polytechnic Institute professor, for the murder of Stockton Heath, Jr., and laid the ground work for a plea of insanity.

The court has adjourned until 3 o'clock for conference between opposing counsel, and it is widely reported that when the trial is resumed, the Commonwealth will agree to the plea being instructed to bring in a verdict of "not guilty because of insanity at the present time."

If this plea is to be the case, Judge Moffett will immediately commit Vawter to an asylum for the criminal insane.

The principal reason for the presumption that this compromise will be effected lies in the statement made by counsel for the defense just before noon, when court adjourned: "If the trial is resumed this afternoon Mrs. Vawter will take the stand."

Unwritten Law Fails.

The defense disclosed its hand about an hour after the trial was resumed, when it brought forth expert testimony summoned overnight to show that Vawter was insane at the time he wrote the damaging letter and was subject to spells of insanity. The action came like a bombshell in the court room. It was an epochal moment in the criminal annals of Virginia. It marked the first time in history that the unwritten law plea has failed in the Old Dominion.

It was not entirely unexpected, however, since yesterday's sensation in the damning evidence that Vawter had incompetently viewed his wife's relations with Heath, had urged him on to further relations, and incidentally asked for petty financial assistance. It was realized that the defense must take drastic action to save the prisoner.

But it was not expected so soon. It was not expected to be so bold. It literally paralyzed a court room that thought all sensations had been dulled.

Come in Surprised.

The forecast decision of the Commonwealth concerning the insanity defense came as a complete surprise. During his grilling cross-examination of the three experts, Dr. A. M. Showalter, Dr. A. D. Evans, and Dr. J. H. Anderson, the special prosecutor never once intimated that the State would accept the insanity plea.

On the other hand his every question showed the clear intention to show that Vawter was a degenerate, not insane.

Briefly the testimony of the experts was this:

Under direct examination they agreed that the man who wrote the damning letters must have been insane, taking into consideration Vawter's marital relations and his slight against Vawter.

Under cross-examination they were forced to admit that anyone who had written the letter must have been sane, or a degenerate, here bringing evidence to the stand.

The sensational switch in plans proved to be a time late this morning to be followed by a second climax no less dramatic.

Mrs. Vawter Not Heard.

With the conclusion of the expert evidence, Attorney Jordan, for the defense, announced that the time had come for Mrs. Vawter to take the stand, and that she would give testimony of so intimate a nature that he felt it necessary to clear the court of all persons except court officers, lawyers, and reporters.

While Judge Moffett was considering the request, however, there was a conference of opposing counsel which resulted in the decision to adjourn court for a little more than two hours to allow the attorneys to discuss important questions, these subjects generally being accepted as involving the bringing the case to an abrupt end by sending the prisoner to an asylum.

Town Still Dazed.

Christiansburg awoke today just as much dazed as it was last night, after its day of sensations in the trial.

A year was crowded into a day yesterday, climax following climax so fast that nobody had any time to notice the anticlimaxes.

The morning session, with its dramatic story of the death scene and the heart appeal in little Charles Vawter's testimony, left the spectators gasping.

But it was overshadowed by events of the afternoon.

Developments started early, with the resumption of the cross-examination.

GOVERNORS DISCUSS PLAN TO FEED ALLIES

Representatives of 48 States Urged to Aid Food Production.

Organization of the individual States to sustain their common armies—their common allies—and their common country, was threshed out again today by their representatives in war council here.

Sitting with the Council of National Defense, representatives of forty-eight American sovereigns were told that the success of arms depends on their aid.

At the same time, the council told how the Federal Government is clothing for war.

Creation of a "ministry of munitions," with Cabinet portfolio, was declared to be certain, "in embryo," at least, by Walter S. Gifford, director of the council.

How the Government will shortly send 1,000 doctors to England, and a stream of ambulances and surgeons to France, until 3,000 ambulances and probably 7,000 doctors are repairing France's man wastage; how American railroad genius and material will be sent to France, and how the health of the country's "civil armies" is to be guarded as well as the military army, were presented as forward steps of the Federal Government.